



PATENT APPLICATION

**FILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.312
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 2612**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

ATTN: OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS

Hirotake NOZAKI

Notice of Allowance Mailed 12/23/05 -
Batch/Confirmation No. 8835

Application No.: 09/767,863

Group Art Unit: 2612

Filed: January 24, 2001

Examiner: J. MISLEH

Docket No.: 108414

For: MULTI-POINT AUTO-FOCUS DIGITAL CAMERA INCLUDING ELECTRONIC
ZOOM

REPLY TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

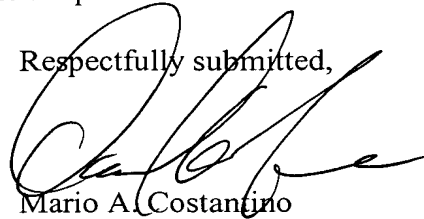
In reply to the December 23, 2005 Notice of Allowance, Applicant respectfully submits the following comments regarding the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 9-18. Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's determination that none of the references found alone or in combination disclose the subject matter of the pending claims. The Notice of Allowance, on page 3, indicates that the closest prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a camera comprising, among other features, a sensing section that senses a non-used state of said monitor. This is an accurate reference to the subject matter recited in claim 9. The Notice of Allowance,

however, groups claims 9 and 10 together. Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claim 10 comprises a sensing section that senses that a photograph is being taken using said optical view finder.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this reply, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC:DAT/cfr

Date: March 20, 2006

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